



Wheelabrator Saugus Inc.

A Waste Management Company

100 Salem Turnpike
Saugus, MA 01906
(781) 233-7600 Tel
(781) 231-2793 Fax

February 7, 2014

George Harding
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Technical Unit (SMR-04)
5 Post Office Square – Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

RE: Wheelabrator Saugus Inc
100 Salem Turnpike, Saugus, Massachusetts 01906
#1 Traveling Screen Malfunction
NPDES Permit No. MA0028193

Dear Mr. Harding:

1.0 Summary

Wheelabrator Saugus Inc (WSI) is providing written notification of a malfunction associated with the facilities #1 Traveling Screen on February 5, 2014 between 08:00 pm and 11:00 pm. Shortly after 08:00 pm the Operations department identified the #1 Traveling Screen had not completed 15 minutes of operation for the 08:00 pm – 08:30 pm time period. An E&I Technician was immediately dispatched to investigate and discovered a failed proximity switch on the motor to the traveling screen. The proximity switch was replaced, and the #1 Traveling Screen was placed back in service shortly before 11:00 pm. During this time (08:00 pm to 11:00 pm) the #1 Traveling Screen did not operate for the required 15 minutes every half hour due to the malfunction. Following this event the #1 Traveling Screen has operated properly. Please note, the #2 Traveling Screen continued to operate properly.

2.0 Written Submission Required Information

As required a written submission is being provided within 5 days of the time WSI became aware of the circumstances and 24-hour oral notification was provided. WSI became aware of the situation when it occurred on February 5, 2013 following a 14.1 minute run time on the #1 Traveling Screen during the 08:00 pm to 08:30 pm time period. Oral notification was made on February 6, 2013 to Mr. George Harding of United States Environmental Protection Agency at 09:20 am and Mr. Muhammad Ahsan of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP) at 09:51 am by Mark Grady, Environmental Manager. A follow up email (enclosed) was also sent.

2.1 Description of Noncompliance and Cause

The facilities #1 Traveling Screen did not operate for the required 15 minutes for every 30 between the hours of 08:00 pm and 11:00 pm on February 5, 2014. The malfunction was caused by a failure of the traveling screen motors' proximity switch.



2.2 Period of noncompliance (including exact dates and times)

The #1 Traveling Screen did not operate for the required 15 minutes for every 30 between the hours of 08:00 pm and 11:00 pm on February 5, 2014.

2.3 If the noncompliance has not been corrected (the anticipated time it is expected to continue)

The noncompliance has been corrected.


2.4 Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance

Due to the nature of the failure the facility cannot predict when a proximity switch may fail. Weekly preventative maintenance is performed on the traveling screens by the facilities maintenance department to prevent mechanical problems or failures. This maintenance includes inspecting the motor, clutch, chain tension and other preventative maintenance items. Additionally, the facility electronically tracks and records traveling screen run times in the Control Room, which is why the problem was identified immediately after the 30 minute block was completed.

The operations group will continue to monitor and track traveling screen run times to remain in compliance with the facilities NPDES Permit.

3.0 Conclusion and Certification

Since this malfunction occurred the #1 Traveling Screen is now operating under normal conditions, and 30 minute screen run times have all been within facility permit limits. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 781-233-7600.

 "I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified Personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information is submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

Sincerely,



Eric Lucier
Plant Manger

Enclosure: February 6, 2013 Email Notification

cc: MA DEP Division of Watershed Management Surface Water Discharge Permit Program (Hardcopy)
MA DEP Bureau of Waste Prevention (NERO) (via email)
Matt Hughes (WTI), Mark Grady (WSI) (via email)
Dana Buske, Tech Environmental (via email)
Frank Giacalone, Saugus B.O.H. (via email)

Grady, Mark

From: Grady, Mark
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 5:15 PM
To: harding.george@epa.gov; Muhammad.Ahsan@state.ma.us
Cc: Frank Giacalone; Dana Buske; Lucier, Eric; Hughes, Matt
Subject: Wheelabrator Saugus Inc: MA0028193

Importance: High

Wheelabrator Saugus Inc is providing notification of an malfunction associated with the facilities #1 Traveling Screen. Last evening (February 5, 2014) shortly after 08:00 pm the operations department identified the #1 Traveling Screen had not completed a 15 minutes of operation for the 08:00 pm – 08:30 pm time period. An E&I Technician was immediately dispatched to investigate and discovered a failed proximity switch on the motor to the traveling screen. The proximity switch was replaced, and the #1 Traveling Screen was placed back in service shortly before 11:00 pm. During this time (08:00 pm to 11:00 pm) the #1 Traveling Screen did not operate for the required 15 minutes every half hour due to the malfunction. Since this event the #1 Traveling Screen has properly operated. Please note the #2 Traveling Screen continued to operate normally.

On February 6, 2014 at 09:20 am oral notification was made to the Agency as required. A follow up written submission will be provided within 5 days. Please feel free to contact Eric Lucier (Plant Manager) or myself at 781-233-7600 if you have any questions or comments on this notification.

Best Regards,

Mark

Mark Grady
Environmental Manager
mgrady@wm.com

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